in Singapore, and included other officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and representatives of Department of Atomic Energy and Prime Minister's Office. The U.S. team was led by Mr. Richard Stratford, Director of Office of Nuclear Energy, Safety and Security, Bureau of Nonproliferation in the U.S. Department of State.

(c) and (d) India has maintained that our obligations and commitments would be those that we undertake in the bilateral cooperation agreement and that we expect that to reflect the commitments of July 18 Joint Statement and March Separation Plan. The process of negotiating the 123 agreement is ongoing. Progress has been made on some issues. The final arrangements on various aspects of nuclear cooperation will emerge only after the agreement has been concluded.

Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty

†3076. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a draft of fissile material cutoff treaty had been presented by the USA in the Conference on Disaster Management in Geneva;

(b) if so, whether the said draft was discussed in the Conference; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government to accept the said draft?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The United States of America tabled a draft of Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty (FMCT) at the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva on 18th May 2006. This is one of many proposals submitted to the CD by Member States on the FMCT. The CD undertook informal discussions under Special Coordinators on all items on its agenda in 2006 and in the first session of 2007. These discussions included issue of FMCT. Negotiations have, however, not yet started.

(c) Government are committed to negotiate a Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty in the Conference of Disarmament in Geneva. India seeks a non-discriminatory, multilaterally negotiated and internationally verifiable FMCT.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.